

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 TRSE-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 /025 R

DRAFTED BY EA/VN:DCHARR:FMLC

APPROVED BY EA/VN:RHWENZEL

NEA/AFW:WSWEISLOGEL

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R 251829Z JUL 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

UNCLAS STATE 175917

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: VIETNAMESE RELATIVES OF AMERICAN CITIZENS -  
FAMILY OF JOHN J. NICHOLSON

REF; ALGIERS 1647

1. SINCE MAY 1, 1975, FOREIGN ASSETS CONTROL REGULATIONS PROHIBIT ANY FINANCIAL OR CURRENCY TRANSACTIONS WITH SOUTH VIET-NAM, EXCEPT AS SPECIFICALLY LICENSED BY TREASURY DEPARTMENT. APPLICATION FOR LICENSE MAY BE MADE TO OFFICE OF FOREIGN ASSETS CONTROL, TREASURY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20220.

2. WHILE IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE FOR MAJOR U.S. OR FOREIGN BANKS TO WORK OUT ARRANGEMENTS FOR TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO SAIGON'S NEW NATIONAL BANK OF VIET-NAM, DEPARTMENT IS NOT AWARE OF ANY BANK THAT HAS SUCCESSFULLY DONE SO SINCE COMMUNIST TAKEOVER APRIL 30. IF MR. NICHOLSON IS ABLE TO OBTAIN A TREASURY LICENSE, HE MAY WISH TO INQUIRE WITH BANKS IN MAJOR FINANCIAL CENTERS SUCH AS NEW YORK, PARIS, OR HONG KONG AS TO THIS POSSIBILITY.

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3. WE UNDERSTAND THAT INTERNATIONAL MAIL SERVICE TO

SOUTH VIET-NAM IS CURRENTLY SUSPENDED BECAUSE OF LACK OF

SUITABLE TRANSPORTION ARRANGEMENTS. IT IS POSSIBLE TO  
SEND TELEGRAMS TO SAIGON ALTHOUGH DELIVERY TO ADDRESSEES  
CANNOT BE ASSURED.

4. THE NEW AUTHORITIES IN SOUTH VIET-NAM HAVE NOT YET  
MADE CLEAR THEIR ATTITUDES TOWARDS PRIVATE VISITS OF  
FOREIGNERS AND, PERHAPS MORE IMPORTANT FOR NICHOLSON,  
EMIGRATION OF VIETNAMESE CITIZENS. SMALL NUMBERS OF  
SOUTH VIETNAMESE HAVE MANAGED TO ESCAPE SINCE TAKEOVER,  
BUT NONE HAS LEFT WITH SANCTION OF NEW AUTHORITIES.  
ISSUANCE OF VISAS, OF COURSE, IS A MATTER ENTIRELY UP TO  
NEW SOUTH VIETNAMESE AUTHORITIES.

5. WHILE NO FORMAL US TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS APPLY AT  
PRESENT TO SOUTH VIET-NAM, WE WOULD STRONGLY DISCOURAGE  
TRAVEL TO THAT AREA BY US CITIZENS IN VIEW OF LACK OF  
US REPRESENTATIVES IN SAIGON AND OUR INABILITY TO OFFER  
PROTECTION TO AMCITS THERE.

6. BEST ADVICE WE COULD OFFER MR. NICHOLSON AT PRESENT  
TIME IS TO WRITE TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS DIVISION  
OF AMERICAN RED CROSS (17TH AND D STS., N.W., WASHINGTON,  
D.C. 20006) WHICH IS SEEKING TO FACILITATE COMMUNICATION  
WITH INDIVIDUALS IN VIET-NAM. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, TRAVEL CONTROLS, EMIGRANTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 25 JUL 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975STATE175917  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** DCHARR:FMLC  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750259-0220  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750720/aaaaasco.tel  
**Line Count:** 87  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN EA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 ALGIERS 1647  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** hartledg  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 10 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <10 JUL 2003 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <20 JAN 2004 by hartledg>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** VIETNAMESE RELATIVES OF AMERICAN CITIZENS - FAMILY OF JOHN J. NICHOLSON  
**TAGS:** SREF, VS, (NICHOLSON, JOHN J)  
**To:** ALGIERS  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006